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Report/Article Title Letter with attachment: from Alan Cranston to James Stockdale, May 3, 1982

Journal/Book Title

Year 0000

Month/Day

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Number of Images 0

Description Notes Attachment is a preliminary report of the Wisconsin State Agent Orange Identification and Assistance Project as presented November 20, 1981. Also included in this item are a page of handwritten notes by Alvin L. Young and a page of handwritten notes labeled "26 May Comments by Hobson."

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 3, 1982

o Dr. Hobson
Barz
5/6/82
Action

Mr. James Stockdale
Chairman
Agent Orange Working Group
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 622E
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Stockdale,

Thank you for your quick response to my March 29 request that the Science Panel of the Cabinet Council Agent Orange Working Group review and comment on the Wisconsin State Agent Orange Identification and Assistance Project preliminary report.

I found the information you provided regarding the Science Panel's assessment of a Wisconsin proposal to use maps developed from HERBS tapes data as a means of assigning exposure most interesting. However, it's my understanding that the preliminary report (enclosed) on which I requested the Science Panel's review and comment involved the use of self-described military duties (such as mixer, applicator, and infantry) for determining exposure categories. Thus, I would greatly appreciate the Science Panel's reviewing the enclosed report. I would especially appreciate learning of the Science Panel's analysis of matching perceived health problems with military-duty exposure categories, branch of service, and duty area, and its views on whether scientifically valid conclusions may be drawn from such correlations and whether making these types of correlations merits further examination.

Thank you for your continuing cooperation and interest in addressing the many difficult questions concerning Agent Orange.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Alan Cranston
Ranking Minority Member

Enclosure

5/5/82-R

PRELIMINARY REPORT

WISCONSIN STATE AGENT ORANGE IDENTIFICATION AND ASSISTANCE PROJECT



As Presented on November 20, 1981 before
the Board of the Wisconsin Department of
Veterans Affairs

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF HEALTH, P.O. BOX 309, MADISON, WI 53701

DESCRIPTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDENTS

<u>CHARACTERISTIC</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING</u>
SEX	males	99%
	females	.2%
RACE	White	97%
	Black	1%
	Native American	.7%
	Hispanic	.3%
MARITAL STATUS	Married	79%
	Divorced	9%
	Single	11%
TOURS OF DUTY	Single	79%
	Multiple	18%
SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY	None	78%
	Granted	13%
	Pending	1%
	Denied	6%
VA-AGENT ORANGE EXAM	Not examined	95%
	Examined	4%

DISTRIBUTION OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE RATES

<u>PERCENT RESPONSE RANGE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF COUNTIES IN RANGE</u>
42% - 54%	7
55% - 59%	24
60% - 64%	30
65% - 72%	11
58%	72

44,566 - State of Wisconsin Addresses - 58% response
 7,635 - Out of State Addresses - 32% response
 6,117 - No county code available - 14% response

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF HEALTH, P.O. BOX 309, MADISON, WI 53701



Dear Veteran:

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services is trying to locate state veterans who may have been exposed to the toxic chemical dioxin, a contaminant in a plant killer called "Agent Orange" used in Vietnam.

(Circle)
Are you one of these veterans? Yes No

To help us in this effort, please take the next 10 minutes and answer the following questions and return this form in the next mail. No postage is needed. Just fold the form with our address out and staple or tape shut.

(Circle)
Is your name and address label correct? Yes No (Please print corrections below label.)

If you believe you were exposed or if you have unexplained health problems, reproductive problems, or children with birth defects, we will be sending you a more detailed questionnaire. A doctor will review this information.

Your response is important! Without it, we will not be able to accurately assess the impact of Vietnam service and "Agent Orange" on Wisconsin veterans' health. If you have questions, a toll-free telephone is available weekdays between 9:30 A.M. and 12:00 noon (1-800-362-3030).

Thank you.

Henry A. Anderson

Henry A. Anderson, M.D.
Chief, Environmental Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Prevention

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT
IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.

Circle or check the appropriate boxes in response to the following questions.

1. PHONE - -
Area Code Number
2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER - -
3. BIRTH DATE / /
Mo. Day Year
4. SEX ☐ M ☐ F
5. RACE White ☐ 1 Black ☐ 2 Asian/Pacific Islands ☐ 3
Native American ☐ 4 Hispanic ☐ 5 Other ☐ 6
6. Did you serve in Vietnam? Yes No Cambodia? Yes No Laos? Yes No Other?
7. Did you serve more than one tour? Yes No
8. Total Months
9. DATES / to /
Mo. Year Mo. Year Mo. Year to Mo. Year Mo. Year to Mo. Year
10. If you served in Vietnam, which units did you serve in?
Division Branch of Service
11. Which corps in Vietnam did you serve in?
(See map on reverse side of questionnaire) 1 2 3 4 5 6 (CIRCLE APPROPRIATE NUMBER)
12. Do you believe you were exposed to Agent Orange? 1 Yes 2 No 3 Don't Know
13. How might you have been exposed to Agent Orange?
1 ☐ Infantry 2 ☐ Pilot or Aerial Crew Member
3 ☐ Mixer 4 ☐ Applicator/Ground/Boat
5 ☐ Other 6 Please describe
14. Do you use tobacco? ☐ Never ☐ Cigarettes # per day If stopped, list year
☐ Cigars # per day If stopped, list year ☐ Pipe ☐ Other
15. Are you presently being treated by a doctor for a chronic illness or symptoms? ☐ Yes ☐ No

	Onset Prior to Vietnam	Onset Post Vietnam	Onset Prior to Vietnam	Onset Post Vietnam
<input type="checkbox"/> Heart/Lungs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Stomach/Bowels	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Liver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If any comments, please write below: <u> </u> <u> </u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic pain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Skin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Nerves/Brain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
16. Have you already been seen by the V.A. for Agent Orange exposure? 1 Yes 2 No
17. Have you ever applied for a service connected disability? 1 ☐ No 2 ☐ Yes/Granted 3 ☐ Yes/Pending 4 ☐ Yes/Denied
If yes, what is your disability?
18. Current Occupation: Job Year Hired ☐ Unemployed
Industry Year Hired
19. Marital Status: 1 ☐ Married 2 ☐ Single 3 ☐ Divorced/Separated 4 ☐ Widowed
20. How many LIVE births are you responsible for?
Please describe problems:

Pre-Service in Vietnam	Post-Service in Vietnam
Total	Total
Birth Defects <u> </u>	Birth Defects <u> </u>
21. Do you know other Vietnam veterans that we should contact? If yes, include names and addresses below.

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MADISON, WIS.
PERMIT NO. 152**

For question #11, use code number
1 thru 7 — not the name of the country.

**No
Postage Stamp
Necessary
if Mailed in The
United States**

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 1199 MADISON, U.S.A.
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**Division of Health
Henry A. Anderson, M.D., Chief
Environmental Epidemiology Section
P.O. Box 308
Madison, WI 53791**

☐ Please send more information

☐ Please send detailed questionnaire

**AGE DISTRIBUTION OF WISCONSIN VIETNAM VETERANS
AND QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE RATE**

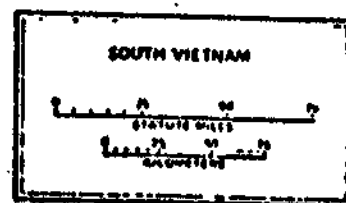
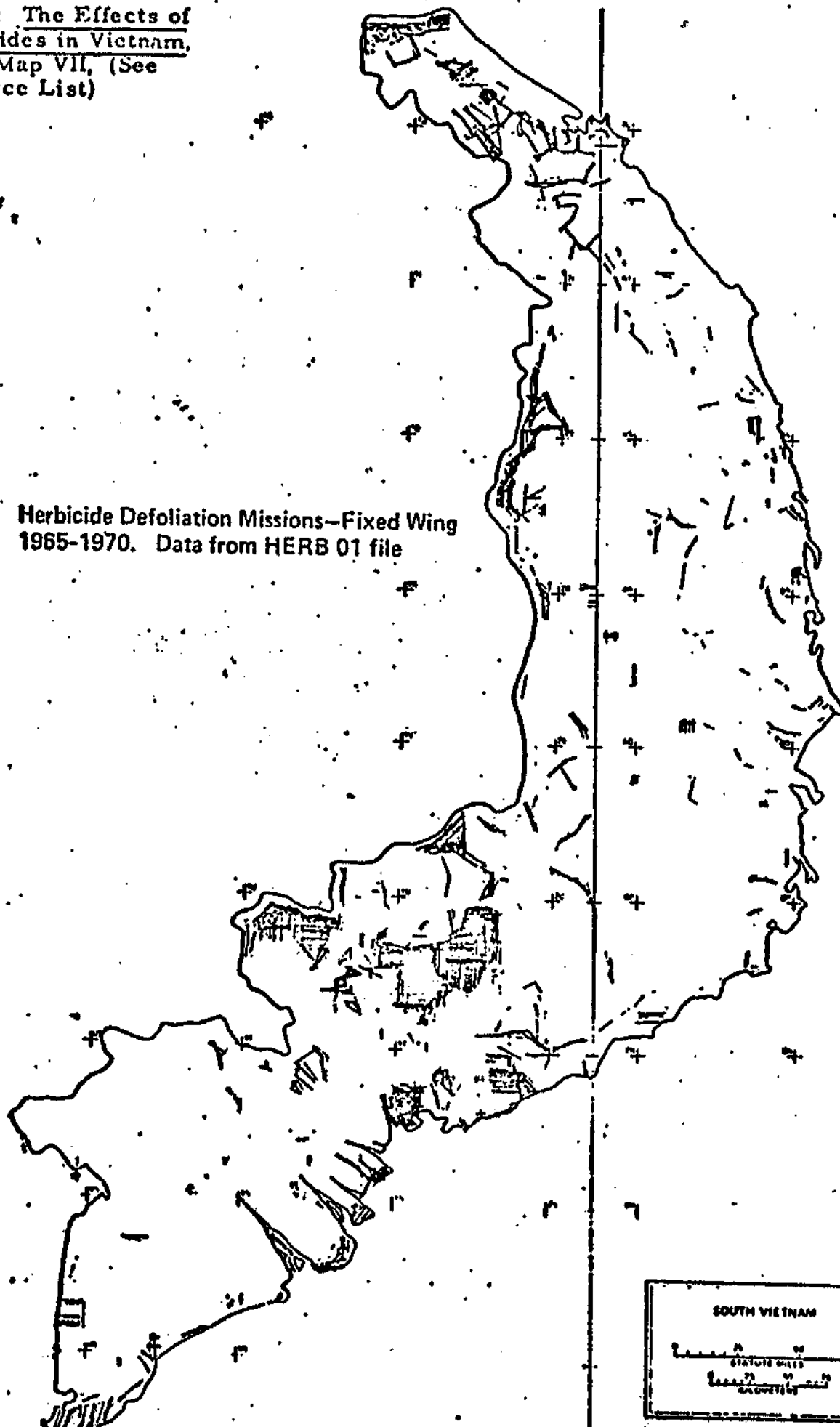
<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>TOTAL VIETNAM VETERANS</u>	<u>PERCENT RETURNING QUESTIONNAIRE</u>
28 - 32 years	12,407	49%
33 - 37 years	34,105	54%
38 - 42 years	7,203	44%
43 - 47 years	1,715	30%
48 - 52 years	1,500	33%
53 + years	1,196	30%

**DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTED DUTY AREAS
REPORTED BY 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS**

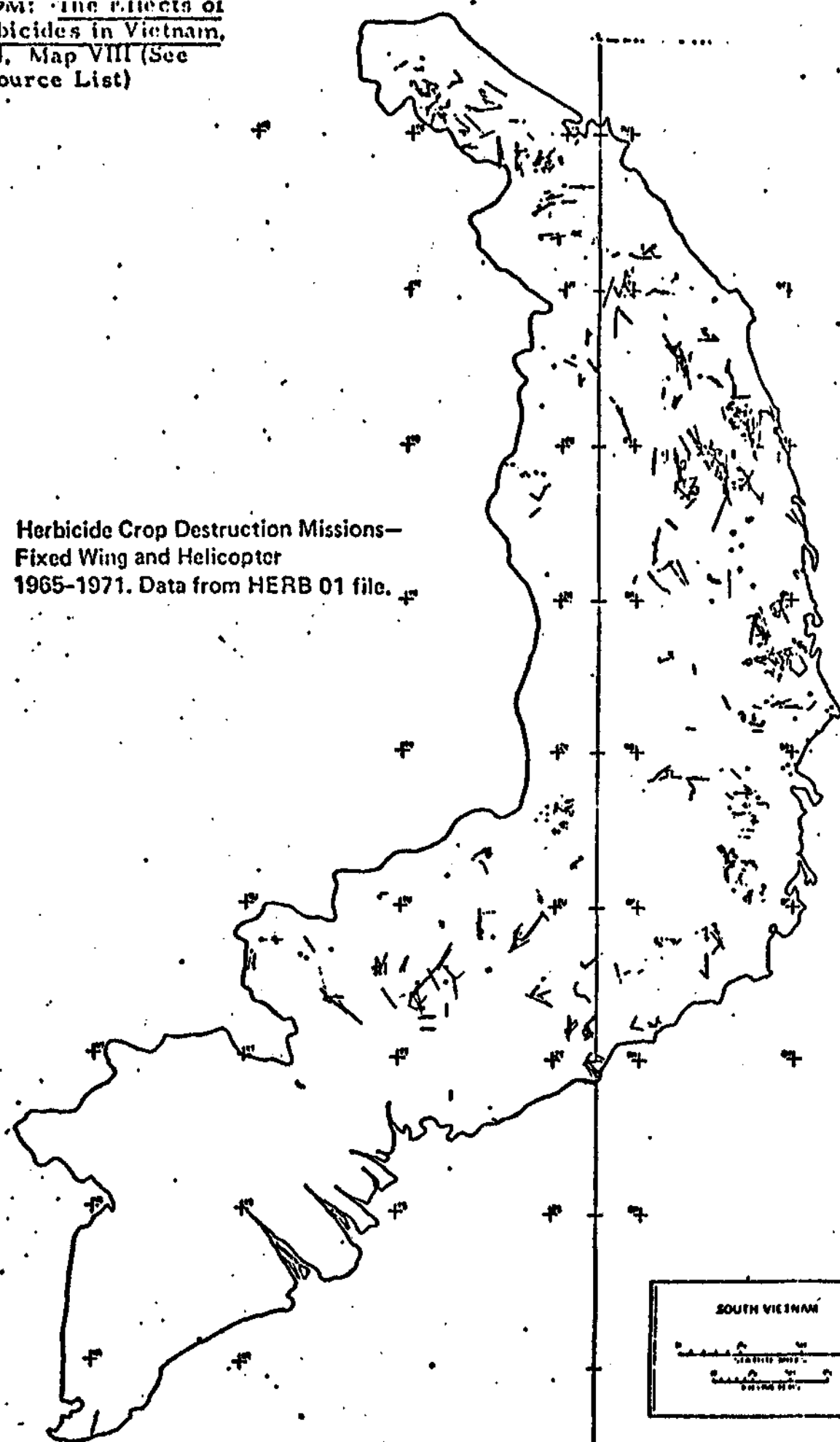
<u>AREA</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING SOME DUTY IN AREA</u>
Corps 1	38%
Corps 2	32%
Corps 3	37%
Corps 4	10%
Cambodia	4%
Laos	1%
Territorial Waters	9%
No Duty in Vietnam	4%

† FROM: The Effects of
Herbicides in Vietnam,
1974, Map VII, (See
Resource List)

Herbicide Defoliation Missions—Fixed Wing
1965-1970. Data from HERB 01 file



Herbicide Crop Destruction Missions—
Fixed Wing and Helicopter
1965-1971. Data from HERB 01 file.



**DISTRIBUTION OF WISCONSIN VIETNAM VETERANS BY
BRANCH OF SERVICE AND QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE**

<u>BRANCH OF SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAM VETERANS</u>	<u>PERCENT RETURNING QUESTIONNAIRE</u>
Army	33,291	55%
Navy	10,841	42%
Marines	7,830	48%
Air Force	6,272	46%
Coast Guard	112	37%
TOTAL	58,346	51%

**DISTRIBUTION OF POSSIBLE AGENT ORANGE METHODS OF EXPOSURE
REPORTED BY 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS**

<u>POSSIBLE METHOD OF EXPOSURE</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING</u>
Infantry	27%
Pilot or Aerial Crew	7%
Mixer	2%
Applicator/Ground/Boat	3%
Other	20%
Written details of exposure provided	24%

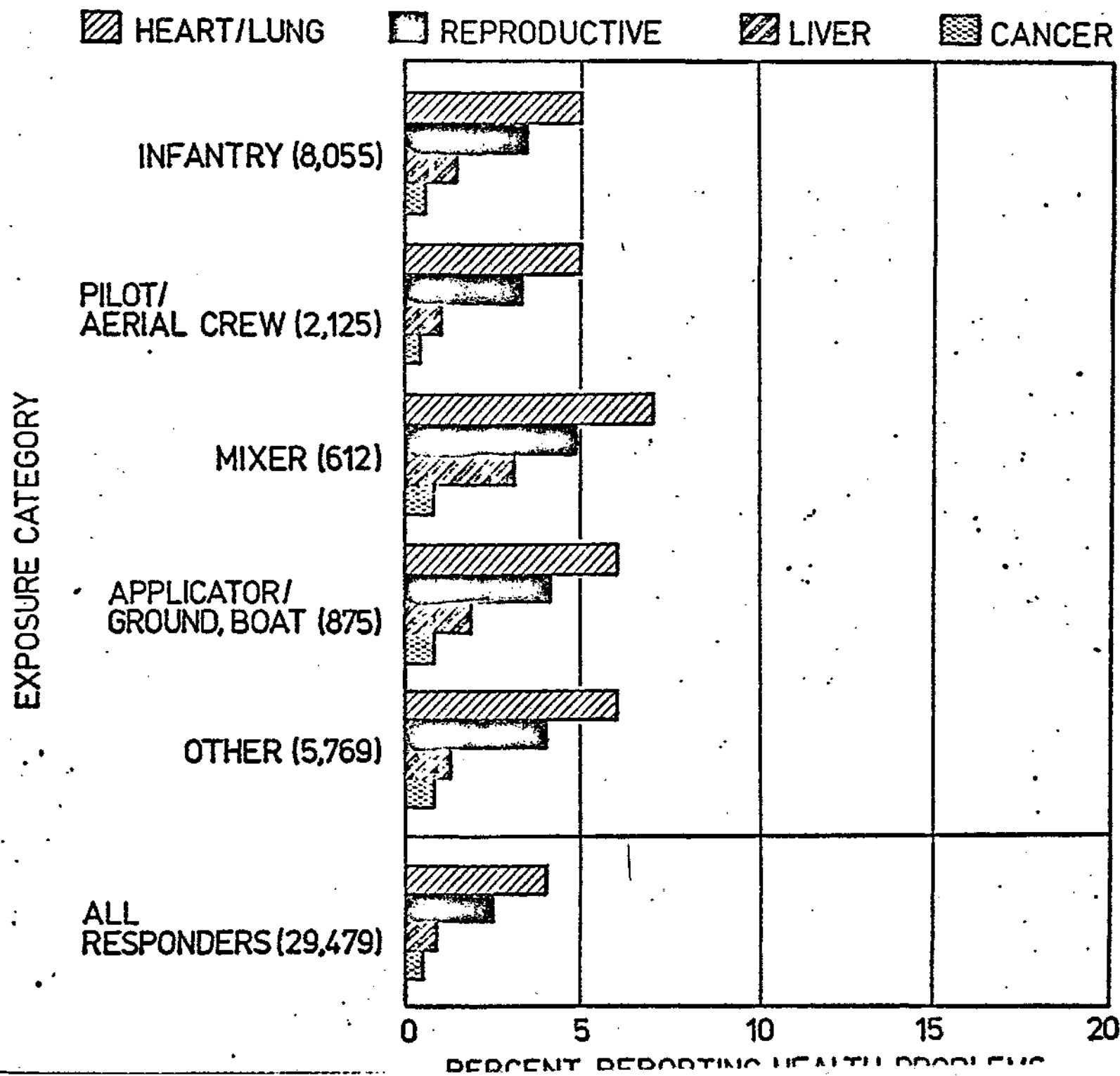
PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG 29,479
QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY POSSIBLE AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE CATEGORIES

<u>EXPOSURE CATEGORY</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING HEALTH PROBLEMS</u>			
	<u>HEART/LUNG</u>	<u>REPRODUCTIVE</u>	<u>LIVER</u>	<u>CANCER</u>
Infantry (8,055)	5%	3.5%	1.5%	0.6%
Pilot/aerial crew (2,125)	5%	3.4%	1.1%	0.5%
Mixer (612)	7%	4.9%	3.1%	0.8%
Applicator/ground, boat (875)	6%	4.2%	1.9%	0.8%
Other (5,769)	6%	4.0%	1.3%	0.8%
All Responders (29,479)	4%	2.5%	0.9%	0.5%

PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG 29,479
QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY POSSIBLE AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE CATEGORIES

<u>EXPOSURE CATEGORY</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING HEALTH PROBLEMS</u>		
	<u>SKIN</u>	<u>BRAIN/NERVES</u>	<u>PAIN</u>
Infantry (8,055)	14%	12%	6%
Pilot/aerial crew (2,125)	13%	11%	5%
Mixer (612)	17%	17%	9%
Applicator/ground, boat (875)	15%	15%	8%
Other (5,769)	15%	12%	7%
All Responders (29,479)	10%	8%	4%

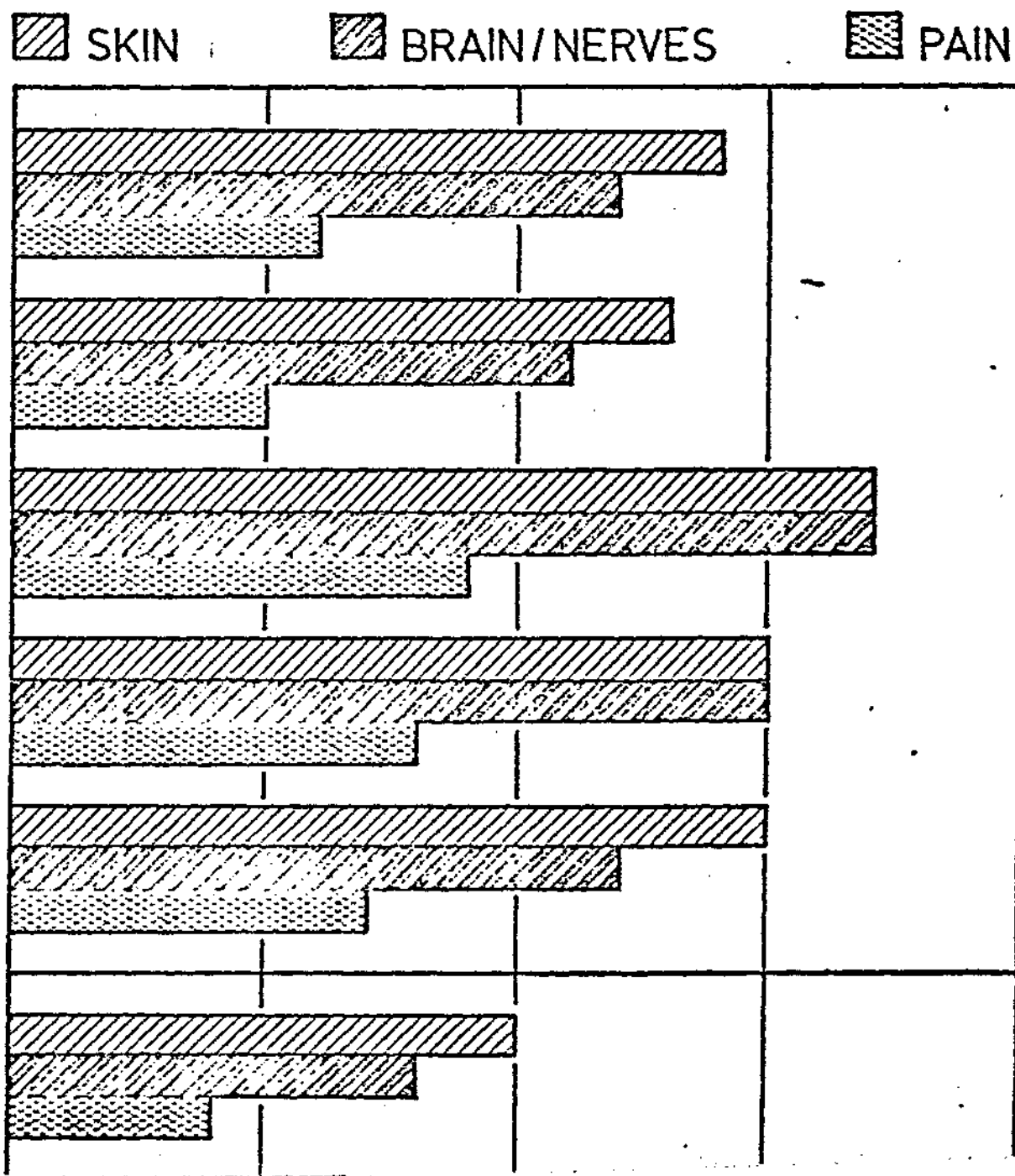
QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY POSSIBLE AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE CATEGORIES



PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG 29,479

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY POSSIBLE AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE CATEGORY

EXPOSURE CATEGORY



- ① Self-reporting of health defect, e.g. has
were liver defects diagnosed? Has re-
productive problems?
- ② Self-reported duties not verified, e.g.
Has was it determined that Agent
Orange was mixed?
- ③ No control of confounding factors, e.g.
What other chemicals were mixed

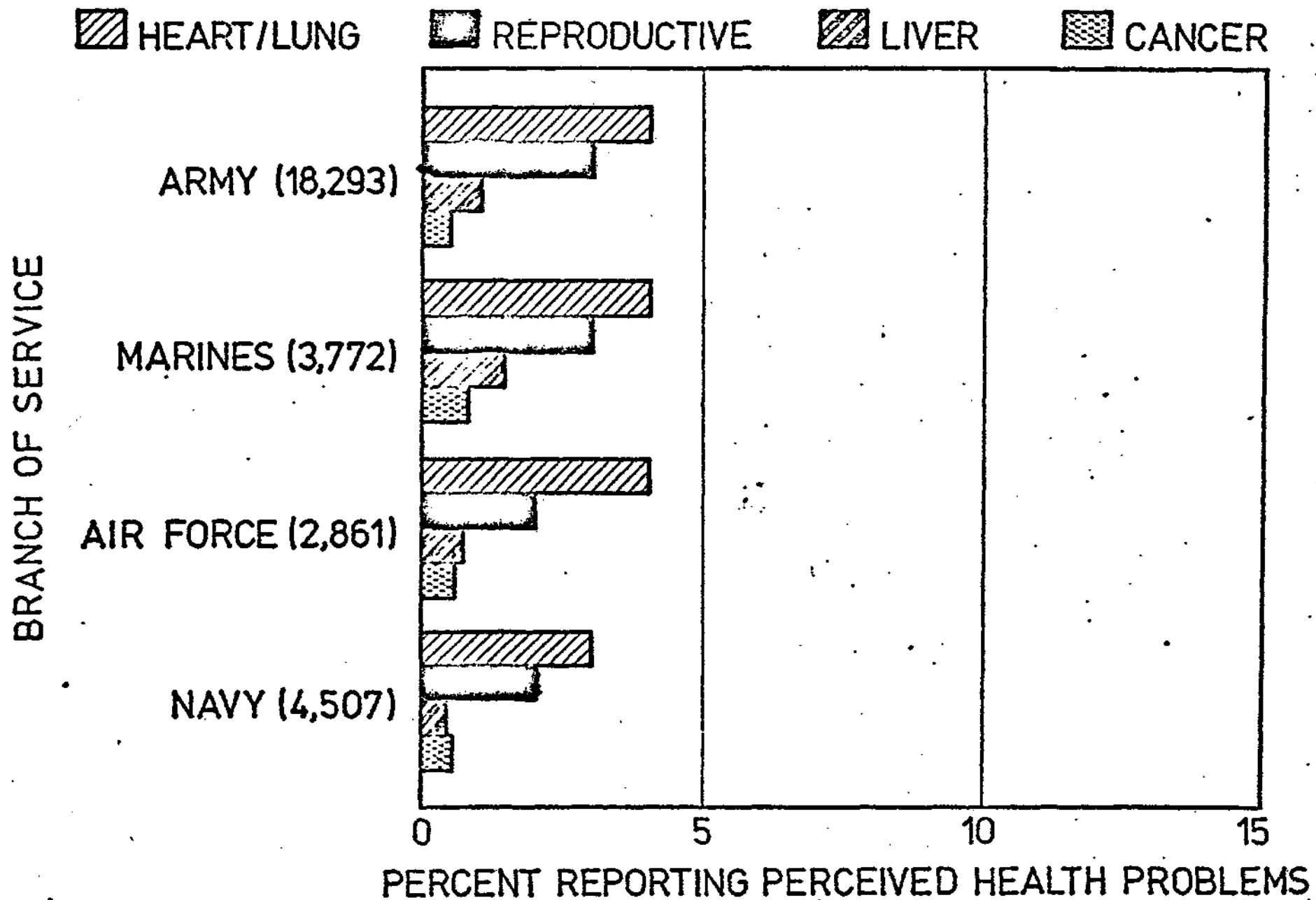
PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS
 AMONG 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY BRANCH OF SERVICE

<u>BRANCH OF SERVICE</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEM</u>			
	<u>HEART/LUNG</u>	<u>REPRODUCTIVE</u>	<u>LIVER</u>	<u>CANCER</u>
Army (18,293)	4%	3%	1%	0.5%
Marines (3,772)	4%	3%	1.4%	0.8%
Air Force (2,861)	4%	2%	0.7%	0.6%
Navy (4,507)	3%	2%	0.4%	0.5%

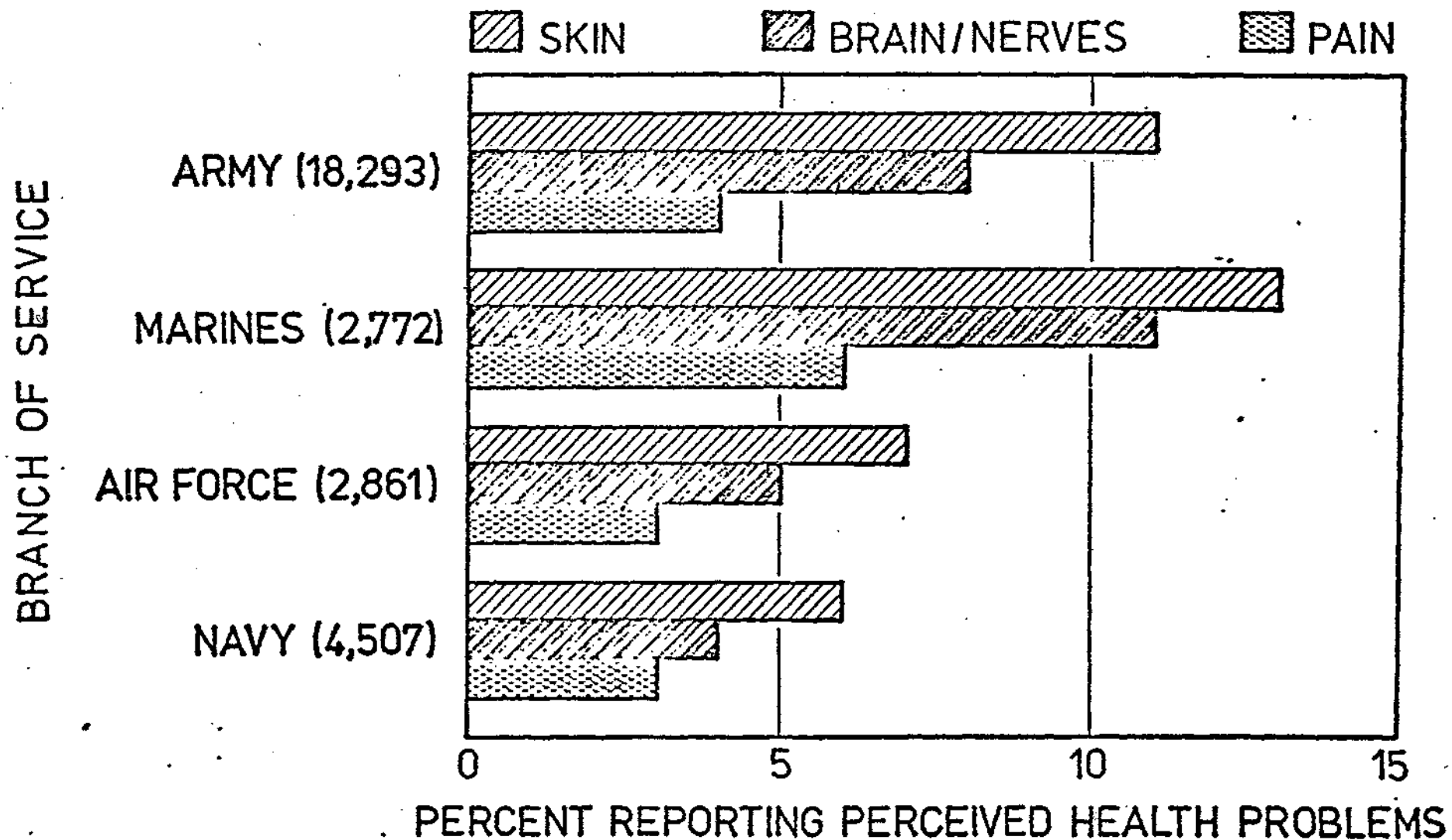
PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS
 AMONG 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY BRANCH OF SERVICE

<u>BRANCH OF SERVICE</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS</u>		
	<u>SKIN</u>	<u>BRAIN/NERVES</u>	<u>PAIN</u>
Army (18,293)	11%	8%	4%
Marines (3,772)	13%	11%	6%
Air Force (2,861)	7%	5%	3%
Navy (4,507)	6%	4%	3%

PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS
AMONG 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY BRANCH OF SERVICE



PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS
AMONG 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY BRANCH OF SERVICE



**PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS
AMONG 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY DUTY AREA IN VIETNAM**

<u>SERVICE AREA</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING HEALTH PROBLEMS</u>			
	<u>HEART/LUNG</u>	<u>REPRODUCTIVE</u>	<u>LIVER</u>	<u>CANCER</u>
Corps I (11,124)	5%	3%	1.2%	0.6%
Corps II (9,295)	5%	3%	1.2%	0.7%
Corps III (10,911)	4%	3%	0.9%	0.5%
Corps IV (2,831)	5%	3%	1.1%	0.8%
Cambodia (1,171)	7%	5%	1.5%	0.3%
Laos (417)	8%	6%	1.4%	0%
Territorial Waters (2,532)	8%	1%	0.3%	0.6%

**PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED HEALTH PROBLEMS
AMONG 29,479 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDERS BY DUTY AREA IN VIETNAM**

<u>SERVICE AREA</u>	<u>PERCENT REPORTING HEALTH PROBLEMS</u>		
	<u>SKIN</u>	<u>BRAIN/NERVES</u>	<u>PAIN</u>
Corps I (11,124)	12%	10%	5%
Corps II (9,295)	11%	10%	5%
Corps III (10,911)	11%	9%	5%
Corps IV (2,831)	13%	10%	5%
Cambodia (1,171)	16%	15%	9%
Laos (417)	16%	20%	10%
Territorial Waters (2,532)	5%	4%	3%

26 May
Comments by
Hobson

- ① Health defects are self-reported & unsubstantiated - e.g. How were liver defects diagnosed? How were reproductive problems evaluated?
- ② Duties were self-reported, not verified - e.g. Were "mixers" or "applicators" assigned to chemical units? How often such duties performed? Was it Agent Orange or insecticide that was mixed or sprayed?
- ③ No attempt was made to detect confounding factors - e.g. alcoholism in liver disease, exposure to other chemicals (insecticides, etc.) in VN or in U.S., drug abuse, etc.
- ④ Broad categories of illness does not yield significant data - e.g. most persistent skin diseases acquired in VN are fungal, "nerves/brain" can be construed to include psychiatric diagnoses
- ⑤ Data are confusing, indicating confounding or complicating factors - e.g. Cambodia & Laos service produced apparent highest incidence of disease despite lesser use of herbicides
- ⑥ Basically - population is self-selected (percentage returns not given) with more likely responses from unwell
 - confounding factors were controlled
 - misclassification was uncontrolled
 - inaccurate reporting of health condition was not evaluated

Result: a marine who mixed chemicals in Laos with skin problems is most likely victim

• RAUCH HAND UNITS
Identifiers to

Don Larkin